

time frame and shall coordinate a full report to be presented to the Joint Legislative Public Assistance Commission by the end of each calendar year. Counties having a Workforce Development Board may designate the Board to perform the duties described in this section rather than organizing a Job Service Employer Committee.

(b) Members of families with dependent children and with aggregate family income at or below the level required for eligibility for ~~Aid to Families with Dependent Children assistance~~, Work First Family Assistance, regardless of whether or not they have applied for such assistance, shall be given priority in obtaining ~~manpower~~ employment services including training and ~~public service employment~~ community service provided by or through State agencies or counties or with funds which are allocated to the State of North Carolina directly or indirectly through prime sponsors or otherwise for the purpose of employment of unemployed persons.

(c) [Repealed.]”

(b) Each county's Job Service Employer Committee or Workforce Development Board shall develop a study of the "working poor" in their respective counties and shall include the following in the study:

- (1) Determine the extent to which current labor market participation enables individuals and families to earn the amount of disposable income necessary to meet their basic needs;
- (2) Determine how many North Carolinians work and earn wages below one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the Federal Poverty Guideline and study trends in the size and demographic profiles of this underemployed group within the respective county;
- (3) Examine job market factors that contribute to any changes in the composition and numbers of the working poor including, but not limited to, shifts from manufacturing to service, from full-time to part-time work, from permanent to temporary or their contingent employment;
- (4) Consider and determine the respective responsibilities of the public and private sectors in ensuring that working families and individuals have disposable income adequate to meet their basic needs;
- (5) Evaluate the effectiveness of the unemployment insurance system in meeting the needs of low-wage workers when they become unemployed;
- (6) Examine the efficacy of a State earned income tax credit that would enable working families to meet the requirements of the basic needs budget;
- (7) Examine the wages, benefits, and protections available to part-time and temporary workers, leased employees, independent contractors, and other contingent workers as compared to regular full-time workers;
- (8) Solicit, receive, and accept grants or other funds from any person or entity and enter into agreements with respect to these grants or other funds regarding the undertaking of studies or plans necessary to carry out the purposes of the committee; and